

II. REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-26, 28-42, 44-52, 54-64, and 66-95 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 23, 42, 51, 56, 62, 68, 74, 79, and 85 are independent. In this Amendment, Claims 1, 9, 12, 13, 23, 32, 36, 39, 40, 42, 44, 46, 51, 52, 54 to 57, 61, 62, 67 to 69, 72, 74, 75, 78, 79, 82 to 85, 90, 93, and 94 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claim 43 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 12, 39 and 93 have been amended to address the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

The independent claims recite subject-matter not suggested, shown or taught in the cited references. In the Examiner's reasons, the Examiner has rejected the claims primarily on the basis of Japanese Published Application No. 09-224111 either alone or in combination with Japanese Published Application No. 08-108689, U.S. Patent No. 5,790,910 to Haskin, U.S. Patent No. 6,663,328 to Byrd et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,570,612 to Saund et al. and/or U.S. Patent No. 6,567,121 to Kuno. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejections in view of the cited references should be removed.

The primary reference relied upon by the Examiner shows an electronic blackboard comprising an image sensor that captures images of a writing surface. Each channel of the image sensor is processed differently. The red channel of the image sensor is processed using a character discriminator, the green channel of the

image sensor is processed using a straight line discriminator and the blue channel of the image sensor is processed using an arbitrary graphics discriminator. As understood by the Applicants, only characters drawn with a red pen tool, straight lines drawn with a green pen tool and graphic forms drawn with a blue pen tool are recognized and used during formation of the output image generated by output unit 21. It appears therefore that a straight line drawn with a red pen tool or characters drawn with a green pen tool are not recognized. The output image therefore does not include all visible pen strokes on the writing surface irrespective of the pen tool used to make the pen strokes or irrespective of color. The remaining references fail to overcome the deficiencies of the '111 reference. Accordingly, the claims submitted herewith are believed to distinguish patentably over the cited prior art and should be allowed.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3507. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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